

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A dental floss for treatment of periodontitis in a patient having one or more periodontal pockets, said dental floss comprising:
  - an elongated dental floss strand; and
  - one or more medicinal members on said dental floss strand, said one or more medicinal members having a medicine product suitable for treatment of said periodontitis, said one or more medicinal members configured for retaining and selectively releasing said medicine product into said one or more periodontal pockets.
2. The dental floss according to claim 1, wherein said medicine product is an antimicrobial agent.
3. The dental floss according to claim 2, wherein said antimicrobial agent is a tetracycline medicine.
4. The dental floss according to claim 3, wherein said antimicrobial agent is doxycycline hydiate.
5. The dental floss according to claim 4, wherein said antimicrobial agent is a gel.

6. The dental floss according to claim 1, wherein said one or more medicinal members comprises at least one spongy member.

7. The dental floss according to claim 1, wherein said one or more medicinal members comprises at least one absorbent strip.

8. A dental floss for treatment of periodontitis in a patient having one or more periodontal pockets, said dental floss comprising:

an elongated dental floss strand; and

one or more medicinal members on said dental floss strand, said one or more medicinal members having a antimicrobial agent suitable for treatment of said periodontitis, said antimicrobial agent being a tetracycline medicine, said one or more medicinal members configured for retaining and selectively releasing said medicine product into said one or more periodontal pockets.

9. The dental floss according to claim 8, wherein said antimicrobial agent is doxycycline hyclate.

10. The dental floss according to claim 9, wherein said doxycycline hyclate is a gel.

11. The dental floss according to claim 9, wherein said one or more medicinal members comprises at least one spongy member.

12. The dental floss according to claim 9, wherein said one or more medicinal members comprises at least one absorbent strip.

13. A method of treating periodontitis in a patient having one or more periodontal pockets, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) supplying a dental floss having an elongated dental floss strand with one or more medicinal members on said dental floss strand, said one or more medicinal members having a medicine product suitable for treatment of said periodontitis, said one or more medicinal members configured for retaining and selectively releasing said medicine product into said one or more periodontal pockets;
- b) applying said medicine product to at least one of said one or more medicinal members; and
- c) flossing the area of said periodontal pockets in the patient's mouth with said dental floss strand having said one or more medicinal members so as to release said medicine product into said periodontal pocket.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said medicine product is an antimicrobial agent.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said antimicrobial agent is a tetracycline medicine.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said antimicrobial agent is a gelled doxycycline hyclate.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein said one or more medicinal members comprises at least one spongy member.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein said one or more medicinal members comprises at least one absorbent strip.

19. The method of claim 13, wherein said one or more medicinal members comprises at least one spongy member.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein said one or more medicinal members comprises at least one absorbent strip.